

Office of Community Development  
Disaster Recovery Unit  
State of Louisiana  
Division of Administration

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## **State Accepting Public Comments on Reallocation of Isaac-Recovery Funding in St. John the Baptist Parish**

BATON ROUGE – The State of Louisiana is accepting public comments on a Partial Action Plan that makes changes to the St. John the Baptist Parish allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds following Hurricane Isaac. The Partial Action Plan reallocates funds from the parish's Small Rental Rehabilitation Program to its Homebuyer Assistance Program and reduces the amount allocated to its Small Business Grant and Loan Program.

In order to serve the number of applicants for the Small Rental Rehabilitation Program and the Homebuyer Assistance Program, Partial Action Plan 8 reduces the St. John the Baptist Parish allocation for its Small Rental Rehabilitation Program to \$1,919,662 from the previous \$3,589,140, a reduction of \$1,674,478. The parish will transfer these funds to its Homebuyer Assistance Program, increasing that program's allocation to \$2,981,438.

Additionally, as a result of less demand during the application period, Partial Action Plan 8 reduces the St. John the Baptist Parish allocation to its Small Business Grant and Loan Program from \$4,334,880 to \$3,334,880. The \$1,000,000 reduction in funds will remain unallocated until the parish submits to the state's Office of Community Development a budget amendment, requiring parish council approval.

Partial Action Plan 8 is considered substantial because it reallocates \$2,674,478 already allocated within the current housing and economic development activities described in the Hurricane Isaac Master Plan.

The formal public comment period for Partial Action Plan 8 begins today, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, and runs until 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 26, 2016. A copy of the plan can be requested by calling

225.219.9600. After accepting public comments, the state will submit the plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for final federal approval.

Members of the public can submit comments several ways:

- Using the online form at [http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action\\_Plans.aspx](http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ocd-dru/Action_Plans.aspx) ;
- Emailing them to [ocd@la.gov](mailto:ocd@la.gov);
- Mailing them to Disaster Recovery Unit, P.O. Box 94095, 70804-9095, Attn: Janice Lovett; or
- Faxing them to the attention of Janice Lovett at 225.219.9605.

The funds are part of the \$66.4 million in Community Development Block Grant dollars that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated to the State of Louisiana for recovery from Hurricane Isaac. The City of New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and St. Tammany Parish all received separate, individual allocations from HUD. Of the \$66.4 million, the state has allocated \$32.7 million to St. John the Baptist Parish and \$16.9 million to Plaquemines Parish for their Hurricane Isaac recovery efforts.

*The Disaster Recovery Unit within the Office of Community Development is dedicated to helping Louisiana's citizens recover from hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike and Isaac. As the state's lead for long-term disaster recovery, OCD-DRU manages the most extensive rebuilding effort in American history, working closely with local, state and federal partners to ensure that Louisiana recovers safer, stronger and smarter than before.*

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